

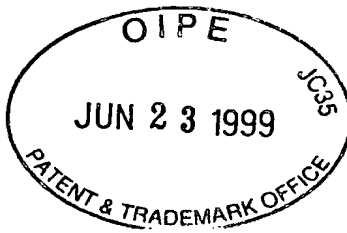
#13 B/BM
6-20-99

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of
Cesar M. Compadre *et al.*

Filed: April 14, 1997

Serial No. 08/840,288



Attorney Docket No.: 023533/0102

Group Art Unit: 1730

RECEIVED

JUN 28 1999

Examiner: Chin P.

GROUP 1700

For: METHOD FOR THE BROAD SPECTRUM PREVENTION AND REMOVAL OF
MICROBIAL CONTAMINATION OF FOOD PRODUCTS BY QUATERNARY
AMMONIUM COMPOUNDS

PROPOSED AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION
UNDER 37 § 1.116

Box AF

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the final rejection dated February 23, 1999. Accompanying this response is a check in the amount of \$55.00 and a petition for a one-month extension of time. The time to respond is extended to June 23, 1999, which is within the six-month statutory period. Should the petition for the extension or associated fees be deficient or absent, please consider this paragraph to be an authorization to withdraw the appropriate fee under 37 CFR §§ 1.16 to 1.21 from PTO deposit account No. 19-0741. Kindly amend the claims as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 5, 18 and 33 without prejudice or disclaimer.

1. (Twice amended) A method for preventing the growth of microorganisms other than *Salmonella* on meat products other than poultry comprising:
- contacting said meat product other than poultry with a microbial growth inhibiting effective amount of a quaternary ammonium compound for about 20 seconds to about less than

37